

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 672 CHAPTERED

CHAPTER 320

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INTRODUCED BY Senator Machado - FEBRUARY 23, 2001

An act to amend Section 10620 of, and to add Section 10013 to, the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 672, Machado. California Water Plan: urban water management plans.

(1) Existing law requires the Department of Water Resources to update every 5 years the plan for the orderly and coordinated control, protection, conservation, development, and use of the water

resources of the state, known as the California Water Plan.

This bill would require the department to include in the California Water Plan a report on the development of regional and local water projects within each hydrologic region of the state to improve water supplies to meet municipal, agricultural, and environmental water needs and minimize the need to import water from other hydrologic regions.

(2) Existing law requires every urban water supplier to prepare and adopt an urban water management plan. This bill would require an urban water supplier to describe in the plan water management tools and options used by that entity that will maximize resources and minimize the need to import water from other regions.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) The Department of Water Resources, through its contracts for delivery of water from the State Water Project, has established water entitlement objectives for approximately 4,200,000 acre feet.

(b) Municipal, agricultural, and environmental water needs have increased beyond levels anticipated in the California Water Plan and the State Water Project has not developed water projects that will yield the quantity of water established as water entitlement objectives.

(c) The health, safety, and well-being of the people of California will best be served by meeting the municipal, agricultural, and environmental water needs of each hydrologic region to the maximum extent practicable without diminishing the resources of other regions that are necessary to meet the present and future municipal, agricultural, and environmental needs of those regions, and while recognizing the continuing need in the foreseeable future to move surplus supplies between

regions in order to meet the municipal, agricultural, and environmental needs of the people of California.

(d) The health, safety, and well-being of the people of the State of California will best be served by employing current and developing water treatment and conservation technologies and by implementing the principles set forth in the Cobey-Porter Saline Water Conservation Law (Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 12945) of Part 6 of Division 6 of the Water Code) to the maximum extent practicable.

SEC. 2. Section 10013 is added to the Water Code, to read:

10013. (a) The department, as a part of the preparation of the department's Bulletin 160-03, shall include in the California Water Plan a report on the development of regional and local water projects within each hydrologic region of the state, as described in the department's Bulletin 160-98, to improve water supplies to meet municipal, agricultural, and environmental water needs and minimize the need to import water from other hydrologic regions. The report shall include, but is not limited to, regional and local water projects that use technologies for desalting brackish groundwater and ocean water, reclaiming water for use within the community generating the water to be reclaimed, the construction of improved potable water treatment facilities so that water from sources determined to be unsuitable can be used, and the construction of dual water systems and brine lines, particularly in connection with new developments and when replacing water piping in developed or redeveloped areas.

SEC. 3. Section 10620 of the Water Code is amended to read:

10620. (a) Every urban water supplier shall prepare and adopt an urban water management plan in the manner set forth in Article 3 (commencing with Section 10640).

(b) Every person that becomes an urban water supplier shall adopt an urban water management plan within one year after it has become an urban water supplier.

(c) An urban water supplier indirectly providing water shall not include planning elements in its water management plan as provided in Article 2 (commencing with Section 10630) that would be applicable to urban water suppliers or public agencies directly providing water, or to their customers, without the consent of those suppliers or public agencies.

(d) (1) An urban water supplier may satisfy the requirements of this part by participation in areawide, regional, watershed, or basinwide urban water management planning where those plans will reduce preparation costs and contribute to the achievement of conservation and efficient water use.

(2) Each urban water supplier shall coordinate the preparation of its plan with other appropriate agencies in the area, including other water suppliers that share a common source, water management agencies, and relevant public agencies, to the extent practicable.

(e) The urban water supplier may prepare the plan with its own staff, by contract, or in cooperation with other governmental agencies.

(f) An urban water supplier shall describe in the plan water management tools and options used by that entity that will maximize resources and minimize the need to import water from other regions.